

Oklahoma Crop Weather



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Drought Continues to Take Toll on State's Row Crops

Oklahoma surpassed another week of dry weather with temperatures remaining in the triple digits. Some rainfall was received in mixed areas of the State, but not enough to make a strong improvement to topsoil and subsoil moisture. Producers were hoping for some relief from the dry weather to save major row crops that have suffered from the long drought season. Three of the districts averaged a high temperature of 100 degrees during the week. There were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| This Week | 75 | 23 | 2 | 0 |
| Last Week | 60 | 35 | 5 | 0 |
| Last Year | 24 | 50 | 25 | 1 |

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

| | Very Short | Short | Adequate | Surplus |
|-----------|------------|-------|----------|---------|
| This Week | 78 | 20 | 2 | 0 |
| Last Week | 70 | 25 | 5 | 0 |
| Last Year | 15 | 45 | 40 | 0 |

Small Grains: Rye and oats plowed was winding down at 96 and 93 percent, respectively with plowed wheat ground trailing at 89 percent complete. Even with the State receiving little rainfall the past few weeks, many producers still remained optimistic as seedbed preparation continued for the 2007 small grain crops.

Row Crops: Sorghum conditions declined from last week with the crop mostly in fair to poor condition. The soybean and cotton condition also remained mostly in the fair to poor range. Major dryland row crops were continuing to suffer as hot, dry conditions prevailed across the State. Irrigated row crops were showing signs of stress and producers were concerned about low water supplies for these crops. The hot, dry weather has hindered corn and soybean crops to a point where a few producers began cutting their crops for use as forage. Sorghum emergence was winding down at 94 percent, while sorghum headed was 21 points below the five year average. Soybean blooming and pod set was slightly above last week at 69 and 40 percent, respectively. Peanuts pegging was near complete and peanuts in the setting pod stage of development jumped 18 points from last week to 70 percent and was running ahead of normal. Cotton squaring had reached 91 percent, while cotton at boll set had just surpassed the halfway mark at 52 percent, an increase of 18 points from last week.

ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending July 30, 2006

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|----------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Corn | 6 | 17 | 25 | 14 | 38 |
| Peanuts | 1 | 10 | 38 | 50 | 1 |
| Cotton | 23 | 30 | 35 | 12 | 0 |
| Sorghum | 4 | 25 | 41 | 18 | 12 |
| Soybeans | 8 | 42 | 31 | 16 | 3 |

Hay: Alfalfa hay remained in mostly fair to poor condition while other hay continued in mostly poor to very poor. Hay supplies were critical and have caused growing concerns for livestock producers. Alfalfa third and fourth cuttings showed only a slight increase from last week due to the dry conditions and lack of moisture. Other hay first cuttings, at 91 percent, also made minimal progress during the week, while second cuttings were 28 points below normal at 13 percent.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending July 30, 2006

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Alfalfa | 28 | 30 | 30 | 10 | 2 |
| Other Hay | 41 | 36 | 18 | 5 | 0 |

Miscellaneous Commodities: Watermelon harvest remained well above normal at 81 percent. Peaches continued with a light fruit set.

Pasture and Range: Pasture conditions declined from the previous week, and nearly two-thirds were rated in poor to very poor condition. Moderate winds and no rainfall continued to dry out pastures. Pond water remained critically low last week. Hot temperatures continued to stress native pastures. Producers were concerned that stressed, over-grazed pastures will take a devastating hit to cattle herds if the State experiences another dry winter and extreme cold temperatures.

Livestock: Livestock were rated in mostly fair to poor condition. Livestock marketings remained high as many cattle were finding their way to the sale barns. Some producers were hanging on to their cattle and cutting any forage available to feed them. Feeder steers under 800 pounds averaged \$115.89 per cwt. and feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$109.05 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending July 30, 2006

| | Very Poor | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|-----------------|-----------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Livestock | 31 | 23 | 32 | 11 | 3 |
| Pasture & Range | 40 | 32 | 23 | 5 | 0 |

| OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Week Ending July 30, 2006 | | | | | | | | | |
| Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 - Yr Avg. | Item | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 - Yr Avg. |
| Wheat - | | | | | Soybeans - | | | | |
| Plowed | 89 | 87 | 90 | 90 | Blooming | 69 | 67 | 59 | 58 |
| Seedbed Prepared | 7 | 6 | N/A | 9 | Setting Pods | 40 | 37 | 34 | 35 |
| Rye - | | | | | Peanuts - | | | | |
| Plowed | 96 | 94 | 98 | 61 | Pegging | 98 | 94 | 96 | 92 |
| Seedbed Prepared | 4 | 3 | N/A | 1 | Setting Pods | 70 | 52 | 69 | 64 |
| Oats - | | | | | Cotton - | | | | |
| Plowed | 93 | 88 | 95 | 92 | Squaring | 91 | 85 | 87 | 88 |
| Seedbed Prepared | 5 | 3 | N/A | 1 | Setting Bolls | 52 | 30 | 31 | 46 |
| Corn - | | | | | Alfalfa - | | | | |
| Dough | 68 | 50 | 55 | 57 | 3 rd Cutting | 86 | 82 | 92 | 89 |
| Mature | 22 | 11 | 16 | 20 | 4th Cutting | 19 | 13 | 23 | 12 |
| Sorghum - | | | | | Other Hay - | | | | |
| Emerged | 94 | 92 | 100 | 99 | 1 st Cutting | 91 | 87 | 93 | 95 |
| Headed | 21 | 17 | 31 | 42 | 2 nd Cutting | 13 | 12 | 30 | 41 |
| Colored | 7 | 6 | 9 | 14 | Watermelon - | | | | |
| | | | | | Harvested | 81 | 78 | 57 | 67 |

Weather for Week Ending July 30, 2006: Temperatures ranged from 60 degrees at Pryor, Oilton and Wister on Monday, July 24th, to 108 degrees at Buffalo and Freedom on Wednesday, July 26th. Precipitation averaged none in the East Central district to 0.84 inches in the North Central district. Soil temperatures averaged 81 degrees at Mt. Herman on Thursday, July 27th and at Newkirk on Friday, July 28th to 95 degrees at Guthrie on Sunday, July 30th.

| MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Week Ending July 30, 2006 | | | | | | | |
| Districts | Temperature | | | Precipitation | | | |
| | High | Low | Average | This Week | March 1, 2006 to July 30, 2006 | | |
| | | | | | Total | Departure from Normal | Percent of Normal |
| | <i>Degrees</i> | <i>Degrees</i> | <i>Degrees</i> | <i>Inches</i> | <i>Inches</i> | <i>Inches</i> | <i>Inches</i> |
| Panhandle | 98 | 68 | 83 | 0.20 | 6.98 | -5.24 | 57 |
| West Central | 100 | 72 | 85 | 0.15 | 11.36 | -4.46 | 72 |
| Southwest | 100 | 73 | 86 | 0.18 | 9.47 | -6.70 | 59 |
| North Central | 100 | 73 | 86 | 0.84 | 11.44 | -5.74 | 67 |
| Central | 99 | 73 | 86 | 0.18 | 13.65 | -5.80 | 70 |
| South Central | 99 | 74 | 87 | 0.08 | 13.35 | -6.66 | 67 |
| Northeast | 97 | 73 | 85 | 0.20 | 17.61 | -3.21 | 85 |
| East Central | 98 | 73 | 85 | 0.00 | 17.10 | -4.96 | 78 |
| Southeast | 96 | 72 | 84 | 0.04 | 19.10 | -4.39 | 81 |

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